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PATENT

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TC 2300 MAIL ROOM

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent  
appln. of: Southco, Inc.  
Serial No.: 09/900,592  
Filed: July 6, 2001  
For: **Electrically Operated Ratcheting  
Pawl Latch**  
Inventor: Eric D. Hyp  
Doc. No.: 164-01

**Certificate of Mail**

**Date of Deposit: December 18, 2001**

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir/Madam:

In the interest of full disclosure, the following items are herewith identified in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98 for consideration by the Examiner. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)**

Each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**U.S. PATENTS**

U.S. Patent No. 4,979,384 issued to Malesko, et al. on December 25, 1990  
U.S. Patent No. 5,020,838 issued to Fukumoto on June 4, 1991  
U.S. Patent No. 6,116,067 issued to Myers et al. on September 12, 2000

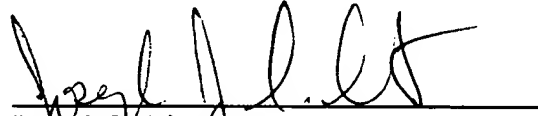
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FOREIGN PATENTS

German Patent No. DE 37 32 138 A issued to Kohler, et al. on September 30, 1986

- The relevance of this patent is that it has been cited in the European Search Report as being particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joseph J. DiDonato

Reg. No. 48,897

Paul & Paul

2900 Two Thousand Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

(215) 568-4900

Date: December 18, 2001

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